

Remarks

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the present amendment and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-14 are pending in the present application. Claim 1 has been rejected. Claims 2-14 have not been rejected and are therefore considered allowable. Applicant appreciates the allowability of claims 2-14.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a plurality of signal masking devices coupled to the vehicle-based unit, each of the signal masking devices having an associated tire location in which a tire-based unit is located, each signal masking device being actuatable for masking the initiation signals near its associated tire location, actuation of a masking device blocking receipt of the initiation signal by its associate tire-based unit. It is respectfully submitted that this amendment to claim 1 obviates the rejection. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 1 was also rejected as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) by U.S. 6,612,165 to Juzswik et al. ("Juzswik"). Reconsideration and allowance of claim 1 is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons:

Anticipation requires a single prior art reference that discloses each element of the claim. W.L. Gore & Associates v. Garlock, Inc., 220 U.P.S.Q. 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983) *cert. denied* 469 U.S. 851 (1984). For a reference to anticipate a claim, "[t]here must be no difference between the claimed invention and the reference disclosure, as viewed by a person of ordinary skill in the field of the invention."

Scripps Clinic & Research Foundation v. Genentech Inc., 18 USPQ2d 1001, 1010 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

Juzswik does not disclose a plurality of signal masking devices coupled to the vehicle-based unit, each of the signal masking devices having an associated tire location in which a tire-based unit is located, each signal masking device being actuatable for masking the initiation signals near its associated tire location, actuation of a masking device blocking receipt of the initiation signal by its associated tire-based unit, as recited in amended claim 1. The LF transmitting antennas 44 disclosed in Juzswik are the not masking devices as recited in amended claim 1.

The LF transmitting antennas 44 disclosed in Juzswik transmits initiation signals (See Juzswik, Col. 5, Lines 7-9). In contrast, in amended claim 1, a vehicle-based unit transmits initiation signals, while the signal masking devices mask the initiation signals at selected locations. Juzswik discloses no structure that masks initiation signals. Accordingly, Juzswik does not disclose a plurality of signal masking devices, as recited in amended claim 1.

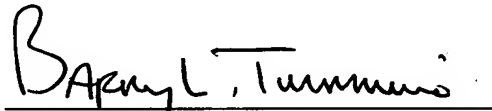
Additionally, Juzswik does not disclose a vehicle-based unit controlling signal masking devices so as to control an associated tire location from which a tire-based unit responds to initiation signals. As mentioned above, Juzswik does not disclose signal masking devices so it certainly cannot disclose control of a feature it does not have. Accordingly, for this reason, Juzswik cannot disclose a controller controlling signal masking devices. Thus, Juzswik does not anticipate the vehicle-based unit

recited in amended claim 1. Accordingly, Juzswik does not disclose each and every element of claim 1 and therefore does not anticipate claim 1. Therefore, claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified patent application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the above-identified patent application is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Barry L. Tummino", is written over a horizontal line.

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